Warren Michigan Public Officials Past and Present

The earliest are unknown due to most records from prior epochs being eroded but there is some evidence of 4-5 extinctions of humans that may have occurred. Also of twelve to fourteen hundred years of known human habitation only very poor word of mouth legends have been passed on until the French started keeping some written records in the late 1600s. It should be noted that earlier peoples have left some art work indicating the possibility of extra-terrestrial visitors. Of course we don't know but when combined with surprisingly similar art work from many other places around the globe this provides an interesting basis for discussion. All too often evidence is ignored. After all everyone knows the Earth is flat and the sun goes around it. Should clues and facts get in the way of beliefs? What is important is to be open minded to the truth and to recognize that there is much we do not know.

Over 1000 mounds have been recorded in Michigan. (Hinsdale) 1,068 (Willis F Dunbar) Mound Road was named after a mound nearby. Macomb County had at least 8 Indian villages, 4 burying grounds, 8 circular enclosures, and 1 rectangular enclosure. There were also at least 28 mounds. Even stranger were the mysterious earth work forts and shaped earth designs with 18 inch tall inner and outer designer walls that are called “gardens” which took on geometric patterns and shapes which Indians would not have seen in their world of nature. Perhaps these were inspired by something the Indians saw perhaps from a more advanced culture such as a UFO that was not in Nature. Strange at the least but of course we really don't know. But around the world native peoples have produced things that were possibly indicative of exposure to more advanced culture. See books by archaeological researchers such as Hinsdale and Hubbard. And if one compares that with the small percentage of verified true sightings, (out of millions or explainable ones), unexplained by anything by technology that mankind currently possesses that leaves open some interesting possibilities. Recent research by physicists have verified 11 dimensions. When one considers that scientists have in fact accomplished, transportation, time travel and cloaking on a small scale, have now discovered earth like planets, and that they are talking in real terms about the space time continuum, parallel universes and worm holes between them, it is evident that there are possibilities that mankind has little knowledge of. As a college professor with scientific leanings I tell students to keep an open mind to the possibilities but to be skeptical of all claims. People from Missouri say “Show me.” But the truth is WE JUST DON'T KNOW. There is far more that we don't know than what we know. We don't know who or what ruled or visited.

Indians had clan and tribal Chiefs who were the “Public Officials.” There were thousands of them most unrecorded. But they had “nature names” like Bold Eagle, Brave Wolf, Wise Owl, Strong Cougar. Approximately 100,000 Indians or about ten percent of the total Indian population north of Mexico lived in the Great lakes region in the 1600s. (Lawrence E. Ziewacz 2). “The most numerous and influential were the Ottawa, Chippewa and Potawatomi.” They called themselves the “Three Fires.” (Lawrence E. Ziewacz 2)

Later our area appears to have been mainly inhabited by the Hurons also known as the Wyandottes who were from the 1600s on at war with other Iroquois especially with those to the South. The Clinton River was originally called the Huron River because of these Indians. They had a village where Detroit is now. The name Huron comes from the French word for boar "hure" as the Hurons kept their black hair short and bristly like a boar's hair. They hunted deer, bear, muskrats, beaver, birds and fish. When the French arrived in the early seventeenth century, the Huron were at the height of their power. The Huron population varies, but as many as thirty thousand people lived in about twenty-five villages. Michigan History magazine stated “The Huron were sedentary, living in large villages with a high degree of community. The Iroquois were more advanced than the Algonquians. Raids from the Iroquoian tribes in New York destroyed the Huron. Survivors were adopted into other tribes or became refugees.” (Perkins)

Southern Michigan was virtually depopulated by Indian massacres. Professor Charles E. Cleland presented a map showing southern Michigan depopulated and explains how this was carried out by Iroquois who attacked Peaceful Hurons and neutral Indians in he lower peninsula of Michigan. (Cleland 86 and maps)

The Michigan tribes were not highly organized. “Leadership in their classless society was based on an individual's hunting or fishing skill, physical prowess, warring abilities, or eloquence in speech. Leaders had no delegated power but maintained influence through acts of kindness, wisdom, generosity, and humility.

Positions of leadership always were earned and could not be passed from generation to generation as a hereditary right." (Lawrence E. Ziewacz 4)

The Great Lakes Indians "believed that the most important social custom was reciprocity. This was basically the idea of doing something for someone, or giving them something, with the expectation that they would do something in return." (Lawrence E. Ziewacz 6) "Reciprocity and sharing was the heart if Indian economic and social organization. (Lawrence E. Ziewacz 7) Indians felt that the land belonged to everyone. Although there was communal property that everyone shared. Even the concept of personal property was limited. It was unsatisfactory for a person to have two of something when another had none. They all lived in the wilderness and were subject to the weather and seasons. The Indians of Michigan had roles for each member of their society. Men did hunting, fishing, trading and defending. Women cooked, prepared clothing, did all of the camp duties and raised children. Children were taught respect and responsibility and were expected to learn everything about the culture. They were conditioned not to cry or make loud noises. The Indians had strong family ties because they were raised in an atmosphere of love and respect. Indians often did not punish their children at all.

There were many battles fought here. Hundreds of arrowheads and other weapons were found. Not all for hunting animals. From the stories and legends of the Indians it has been discovered that there was a lot of warfare between tribes. And this was before white man came here. Then looking at the record of how the Indians treated others and treated their captives demonstrated how cruel they could be. They often tortured captives and took slaves. Scalping was practiced before white man entered but when white men gave the Indians scalping knives and paid them to bring back scalps they excelled at this butchery. They even dug up newly killed persons and scalped them to sell the scalps for goods and fire water. Thousands were killed and scalped including women and children. When archaeologist dug up burial sites in Macomb County it became obvious a lot of people died in cruel warfare. We also know that the Indians were even cruel to child captors.

As far as Indian Rulers the hundreds of local Indian rulers were not recorded and changed often as a result of bloody battles. As far as European rulers perhaps first claim might be the Viking King (Vikings preceded Columbus to America. Leif Ericson (c. 970 – c. 1020).

This would be followed by several French kings. From 1600-1760 The French did everything they could to settle Canada and Michigan. Under Jean Talon the "Great Intendant" On July 24, 1701, Antoine De La Mothe Cadillac and his command of about one hundred men took over Detroit and lower Michigan.

French Commandants

1701 – 1704 M Antione de la Mothe Cadillac
1704 - 1706 Sieur Alphonse de Tonty
1706, January to August Sieur de Bourgmont
1706 august to summer of 1711 M Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac
1711 to June 1712 M Joseph Guyon du Buisson
1712 June to 1714 Francois Daupin, Sieur de la Forest
1714 Nov 12 to 1717 Lieutenant Jacques Chas Sabrevois
1717 M Louis de la Poste, Sieur de Louvigny
1717 July 3 to 1720 M Henri Tonty, younger brother of Alphonse
1720 M Charles Joseph, Sieur de Noyelle
1720 to November 10, 1727 (when he died) Sieur Alphonse de Tony
1727 December 19 to M le Chevalier de Lepermouche
1728 M Jean Baptiste Deschaillons de St Ours
1728 M Charles Joseph, Sieur de Noyelle
1728 to June 10, 1734 M de Boishebert
1734 June 10 to Hugues Jacques Pean Sieur de Livandiere
1734-1738 Lieutenant Jacques Charles Sabrevois
1738-1741 M Charles Joseph Sieur de Noyelle
1741, July 28, to 1742, Pierre Poyen de Noyan
1742-1743 Pierre de Celeron, Sieur de Blainville

1743-1747 M Joseph Lemoyne, Chevalier de Longueuil
1749- Lieutenant Jacques Charles Sabrevois
1751, February 15, to March 19, 1754, Pierre de Celeron, Sieur de Blainville
1754 to May 25, 1758 M Jacques d'Anon, sieur de Muy. Died at Detroit
1758 – 1760 Captain Francois Marie Picote de Bellestre (Silas Farmer 227)

As usual names of Indian chiefs were for the most part unrecorded. By 1710 nearly 6000 Indians from many tribes were visiting near the area of the Fort at Detroit trying to get the French to give them things. This meant that they were hunting in Warren. In the past the French had given lots of gifts to the Indians. But the King of France had ordered an end to buying furs and an end to the giving of gifts. This angered the Indians and led to the murders of many French fur traders. Soon the tribes were fighting amongst themselves for territory. In 1712 allied Indians massacred about 1000 Fox Indians.

The British flag flew over Michigan for thirty-six years from 1760-1796 and off an on until after the war of 1812 and it took a few years after that. for all of the sympathizers to clear out. Then the British still had major control over some Indians which caused some settlers to be killed up to 1830. So if one is counting years that the British had major influence in the Michigan area the total would probably be around seventy years of bloody British sponsored killings.

English Commanding Officers
1760 Major Robert Rogers
1760 to 1763 Major Donald Campbell
1763 to August 31, 1764 Major Henry Gladwin
1764 Colonel John Bradstreet
1765 Colonel John Campbell
1766, Aug 26 Major Robert Bayard
1767-1769 Captain George Turnbull
1770 June 2, to September, Major T Bruce
1770, September, to January 8, 1772 James Stephenson
1772 Major Etherington
1772-1774 Major Henry Bassett
1774 Major R B Lernoult
1775 Captain Montpasant
1775 Major Arent Schuyler De Peyster
1776 Captain Lord
1778 December, to October, 1779 Major Richard Beringer Lernoult
1779, October, to June 1, 1784, Major Arent Schuyler De Peyster

Note Henry Hamilton the hair buyer was the British Lieutenant Governor of Detroit in 1779 This position was higher than simply the post commander.

1784, June 1, to Major William Ancram
1785, June, Captain Bennet
1786, June, Major R Matthews
1787, Major Wiseman
1789, September 2, Major Patrick Murray
1790, November 14, Major D W Smith
1791 Colonel England
1791, Major John Smith, of Fifth Regiment
1792, Major Claus
1792, October 24, Colonel Richard England
1793, March, to 1796, Colonel Richard England of Twenty-fourth Regiment
1793, Captain William Doyle (Silas Farmer p 227)

The above men were actually absolute dictators. De Peyster hanged a woman. Hit a person with his cane and had a person trampled. In 1763 (Farmer 171) Hamilton hanged people in 1776.

In late April 1763 Ottawa war chief Pontiac called a grand council of the tribes in the vicinity of Detroit and urged them to join him in an attack upon the British fort.

The British Governor of Detroit became known as "Hamilton the Hair Buyer" because he bought scalps. Englishmen sometimes led the Indians on raids on American settlers. Ferris Lewis in his book My State and Its Story states "So murderous were these raids that the year 1777 is known in American History as the year of the three bloody sevens. Mutilated bodies with scalps gone, smoldering ashes of what was once a settler's cabin on the frontier, tales of horror and massacre; these marked the trail of the Indian raiders. Hundreds of settlers thus perished before the Indians' guns and tomahawks." Many innocent people were also cruelly tortured. Why did the Indians gather scalps? Who paid them for the scalps and provided this primitive people with scalping knives? (Ferris Lewis p 57)

The Treaty of Paris in 1783, obligated the British leave Detroit it took them thirteen years and some naval battle losses before they left. British rule which began in 1760 ended by 1815. They left a bloody 55 year legacy. They earned the title Bloody British.

In 1774 a battle between General Anthony Wayne's army and a large Indian force under Tecumseh a young Shawnee warrior took place in a place called Fallen Timbers. Wayne was completely victorious. This victory broke the back of the Indian resistance. The Indians realizing that their cause was useless settled for as much as they could get in goods by ceding large areas of land to the Americans in the Treaty of Greenville in 1795. (Willis F Dunbar 171)

Some Indians were very trustworthy and had accounts with local merchants. In 1815 there were probably 40,000 Indians in the State of Michigan. By 1825 30,000 and by 1880 only 10,141.

In 1781 The Spanish attacked Michigan at Fort Miami. The King of Spain claimed to be ruler for a short time.

In 1796 Christian Clemens surveyed a half-Indian half-French settlement on the Huron River (Clinton). He later built the first house there. This area was a part of New France but it was claimed by the British and Americans.

American Frontiersman George Rogers Clark and about 172 frontiersmen led raids against the Indians and the British. 1778-1779.

In 1796 General John F Hamtramck was sent to occupy Detroit for the Americans. This was July of 1796. At this time Wayne County was formed. The population was just over 500. This probably did not count Indians. This is down from the often over 2,000 count when the British ran the place. Many British loyalists had left for Canada.

In 1796 Wayne County was formed on paper, named after the general Wayne who defended American settlers. About that time the British loyalists left for Canada. Canada was considered enemy territory for many years. Fort Wayne was later built to protect the US from British attack.

The North West Territory was established on paper July 13, 1787 The Governor was General St Clair The Indiana Territory was established on paper October 1804 The Governor was General Harrison The Michigan Territory was established on paper Jan 1805. The Governor was General Hull and Cass. Despite this the needless killing continued in the territory.

Americans hoisted the American Flag in Detroit July 11, 1796 but the killing was not over.

American Commanding Officers over the Detroit Area (Farmer 227)

1796 July 11, Captain Moses Porter
1796, July 12, Colonel John F Hamtramck
1796, Major-General Anthony Wayne
1797, Major-General James Wilkinson
1797, to December 17, 1799 Colonel D Strong
1799, December 17, to February, 1800, Major Henry Burbeck
1800 Colonel Porter
1800-1802, Major Thomas Hunt

1802 to April 11, 1803 Colonel J F Hamtramck
1803 Major Henry Burbeck
1803 Major John Whistler
1803 Colonel Thomas Hunt
1805 August, to April 1807 Captain S T Dyson
1809-1811 Captain Jacob Kingsbury
1812 May, Major John Whistler
1812 July, Colonel Brush
1812, July, to august 16, 1812 Gen Wm Hull
1813 September 29, General Duncan McArthur
1813 Major=General William Henry Harrison
1813 October, Colonel Lewis Cass
1813 November, Captain Abraham Edwards
1814 February, Colonel Anthony Butler
1814 March Colonel George Croghan
1814 July Colonel Anthony Butler
1815 January 1 to February 4 Colonel Charles Gratiot

In 1805 Detroit burned down when sparks from the pipe of the town's baker fell into a pile of hay. The resulting fire spread quickly, only the fort was left standing. Two weeks later the territorial government was formed in Detroit under American General William Hull.

Our area was part of the North West Territory until 1805 when it became the Michigan Territory. In 1805, President Thomas Jefferson signed an act establishing the Michigan Territory.

In 1812 American General Hull first invaded Canada then without good reason retreated to his strong Fort at Detroit. General Hull after being attacked surrendered his force of over 2,000 and the heavily armed fort at Detroit to a much smaller force led by British General Brock who with the Indian Chief Tecumseh fooled Hull into thinking they had a much larger force.

In 1812 General Hull ordered Fort Dearborn evacuated. Chief Blackbird at the head of a five hundred-man Pottawatomie and Winnebago ambushed the retreating party. Wells and Heald led a desperate defensive attack up the dune. The wagon-train of women and children was left unprotected. In no time, the Americans were completely surrounded and alone; Half the soldiers were killed and the local militia force was systematically wiped out. One bloodthirsty young warrior slipped into a covered wagon and beheaded twelve children. Mrs. Heald's black slave, Cicely, was one of two women killed while fighting to save the young ones. Heald was wounded but alive. Wells was not so lucky. His head was cut off and his heart eaten by the chiefs who hoped to gain some of his courage. Despite Heald's efforts to ransom the survivors, more were killed after the battle. Others remained Indian prisoners for almost a year. Paraphrased from http://www.galafilm.com/1812/e/events/ftdearborn.html

In January 1813 Red Coats and Indians under Tecumseh surprised and captured or killed almost a thousand American militiamen on the River Raisin. This was the bloodiest battle in Michigan history. They destroyed an entire US Army.

In 1813 hundreds of soldiers died from diseases at Detroit during the fall and winter of 1813. British Colonel Proctor learned that his military position was hopeless and ordered all public buildings in Detroit burned and the city evacuated.

Battle of Put-in-Bay, was fought on 10 September 1813, in Lake Erie off the coast of Ohio during the War of 1812. Nine vessels of the United States Navy defeated under command of Oliver Hazard Perry and captured six vessels of Great Britain's Royal Navy.

With lake Erie free of the British General Harrison now with 2,500 troops attacked the British and forced them to withdraw from Forts Malden and Detroit. In September 1813 the bloody British evacuated Detroit but first burned the public buildings. In October 1813 General Harrison also intercepted 850 British

Troops and 800 Indians in their retreat to Toronto and defeated them at the battle of the Thames. The Indian chief Tecumseh was killed. The Indians were now totally defeated. Only scattered resistance remained but was gone by 1830.

On October 29 1813 President James Madison appointed Cass governor of the Michigan territory a position he was to have for 18 years. (Willis F Dunbar 218)

General Andrew Jackson, known to his men as "Old Hickory." managed to beat the British in the Battle of New Orleans on Jan 8, 1815. Events in Europe had actually resulted in the Treaty of Ghent being signed Christmas Eve 1814. (Willis F Dunbar 222)

But settlers were still being killed by Indians near Detroit so Governor Cass organized a company of volunteers in Sept 1814. On Oct 9 General M Arthur arrived with 700 mounted riflemen to protect the city.

In 1818 Macomb County was formed. From this year to present we have records of public officials rather than rulers or military leaders.

After about 1818 we started to have rule by law not brute force. Constables were appointed. People accused were able to get a fair trial. James Fulton served as the first Macomb County sheriff from 18181822. There has been constant sheriff service since that time. Later as villages formed constables were appointed.

War hero Rev Abel Warren settled in what was to become Macomb County in the summer of 1824. Settlers came from the eastern United States and from many lands.

Charles Groesbeck settled in Section 33 in 1830. Then followed Charles Rivard in 1831 in Section 35. He made a homestead at the northwest corner of 12 Mile and Mound. Others followed Louis Groesbeck and the Beebe Family who settled near the trail (later called the Creek Road and later Chicago Road) that ran along the Red Run Creek. This led to the name Beebe's corners because it had a toll gate run by John L Beebe, to pay for the labor that went into the plank road paving over the marshy area of road. John Beebe was a major official in a road planking company (may have been Detroit to Utica road Company) around 1850. The road was ten feet wide and made of oak planks.

On April 3, 1837 a number of citizens met at the home of Louis Groesbeck to organize the government of Hickory Township…This first meeting chose as its Chairman Avery Denison; as its Clerk, Samuel Gibbs; as Election Inspectors, Louis Beaufait, Alonzo Haight, and Jenison Glazier."

The first township officers were: Supervisor was Samuel Gibbs, Clerk Alonzo Haight; Justices of the Peace, Alonzo Haight, Lyman Rhodes, Samuel Gibbs, and John Barton.; Louis L. Beaufait, Collector; Harris Corey, Loring Hawley, L. L. Beaufait, Assessors; Peter Gillett, John H. Barton, Loring Hawley, Commissioners of Highways; Northrup Jones and Louis Groesbeck, Overseers of the Poor; James N. Bruce, with Beaufait and Corey, were elected Constables. Avery Dennison, Sam Gibbs, Lyman E. Rhodes, Commissioners of Schools. "The town board was made up of Samuel Gibbs, Alonzo Haight, John Barton and Lyman Rhodes. There was no treasurer for the first two years. The Township was divided into six road districts and an overseer was elected over each district. (Leeson's History of Macomb County, Michigan, pp.852ff)

Gerald Neil stated the first public building in Warren was a pound constructed of logs 30 feet square and eight feet high in 1839. It had a strong gate which was kept padlocked. It was used to house stray animals and was located on Gabrel Yates' farm. He held the position of Pound master until 1848. The pound was located on his farm near what is now Sherwood and Eleven Mile Road. (Gerald Neil 8)

January 26, 1837. In Washington, DC, President Andrew Jackson signed the bill making Michigan the nation's twenty-sixth state.

The "Town Board" consisted of a Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and two Justices. All terms of office were for one year (except Justices whose term was for four years) In 1943 the town board terms were changed to two years. Elections were held on the first Monday in April at the Annual Meeting. At these meetings the citizens could change any law of the township except those set by the State legislature. Voting was done by hand or voice, since no tabulation of votes is shown until 1848. All candidates ran as individuals in the early years, and just when partisan politics first entered is not recorded. (Gerald Neil 7) Meetings were held in various homes as there were no public buildings. At least twelve Annual Township meetings were held at the home of George Corey from 1844-1858.

In 1939 Warren's first fire station was built. Vern Lumex and William Van Hulle were hired as fireman. Salary was $130 a month. In 1957 William Burr was hired as Fire Commissioner.

In the early 1920s the Sheriff established a Warren branch office with one and sometimes two regular officers and a few special deputies. In April 1927Henry Kuhn and Charles Krause were the local sheriffs officers. The Town board appointed Ray Bush as Township Officer to with with the Sheriff's deputies. In 1937 Max Bookout and George Collins were appointed as our first Policemen at $175 per month. Collins was appointed as Warren's first Police Chief. He also had special police John Munro, John south and William Romano. (Gerald Neil 21) There was a dispute about whether or not the township could have police. After an opinion by the Attorney General the Board voted on April 20, 1938 to disband the Police. But on May 5, 1938 the Board appointed Henry Kuhn and Charles Krause as Officers. On Jan 12, 1939 these two men were transferred to the Macomb County payroll and Edwin Sherrill and William Van Hulle were hired as officers. In the troubled 1940s supervisors acted as ex-officio Police Chiefs. Vern Lumex was borrowed from the fire Department to be Police Commissioner. William Romano and Alfred Maletta served as Police Chief later in the 1940s. (Gerald Neil 21) In 1951 Police commissioner was Stanley Hamacher a retired Police inspector from Detroit moved into quarters at 9 Mile and Memphis.

Warren Township Supervisors
Samuel Gibbs 1837-1838
John Barton 1839
Henry Lorraway 1840
John Barton 1841
George Bolam 1842-1845
Alonzo Haight 1846
George Bolam 1847-1848
Alonzo Haight 1849
John Beebe 1850-1853
George Corey 1854-1856
George Bolam 1857-1859
Louis Groesbeck 1860-1862
Joseph Daconnick 1863-1864
Louis Groesbeck 1865-1866
Charles Groesbeck 1867-1870
Louis Groesbeck 1871-1878
Paul Lefevre 1879-1886
Jacob Hartsig 1887-1897
Julius Lefevre 1898-1902
Jacob Hartsig 1903-1904
Ferdinand Grobbel 1905-1914
Jacob Hartsig 1915-1917
Ferdinand Grobbel 1918
Bernard Wolf 1919-1921
Edward Jacob 1922-1925
Franck J Licht 1926-1931
Frank Wiegand 1932-1935
Chris Bristow 1936 (Died June 1936)
William Strich 1936 (appointed)
Frank Wiegand 1937
William Strich 1938-1939

Frank Wiegand 1940
Earl Tallman 1941-1942
Two year terms begin
Earl Tallman 1943-1946
William Strich 1947-1948
Arthur J Miller 1949-1956

Warren Township Clerks
Alonzo Haight 1837
Daniel Denison 1838-1839
George Corey 1840-1841
Loring Hawley 1842-1848
George Corey 1849-1851
William Groesbeck 1852-1853
Louis Groesbeck 1854-1856
Charles Groesbeck 1857-1860
Francis Groesbeck 1861-1864
N Hollister Brown 1865-1866
William Enright 1867 Removed by Township Board 11/12/67
John W Kingscott 1867 appointed
John Kaltz 1868
John W Kingscott 1869
Royal Jenny 1870
John Kaltz 1871-1872
George Adair 1873
Paul Lefevre 1874-1877
Henry Miller 1878-1883
Jacob Hartsig 1884-1886
John Kaltz 1887-1898
Frank Wiegand 1899
George Schuster 1900 resigned May 3, 1900
John Buechel 1900 appointed
John Buechel 1901+1903
Otto Jacob 1904
John Buechel 1905-1921
John Wiegand 1922-1924
Irvin Keppleman 1925-1932
John Buechel 1933-1935
William Lawson 1936-1942
Two Year terms follow
Hildegarde M Lowe 1949-1956

Warren township Treasurers
Alonzo Haight 1839
Loring Hawley 1840-1841
Avery Denison 1842
Cornelius Tehan 1843-1845
Samuel Jones 1852
Loring Hawley 1853

Joseph Jobin 1854
Prosper LaDuke 1855
Frederick Wacker 1856 failed to qualify
William Hartsig 1856 appointed
William Hartsig 1857-1858
Arnold Harwood 1859
John W Kingscott 1860-1861
John Woodruff 1862-1866 resigned Sept 1866
Peter Rotarius 1866 appointed
Peter Rotarius 1867
George H Brinkers 1868
Louis Hartsig 1869-1871
Martin Hoffman 1872-1874
Vincent Tremble 1875-1877
Matthias Hoffman 1878-1879
Joseph Rinke 1885-1886
Julius Lefevre 1887-1888
Joseph Rinke 1889-1890
Ferdinand Grobbel 1891-1892
Julius Lefevre 1893-1894
Francis Miller 1895-1896
George Burr 1897-1898
Edward Peck 1899-1900
Jacob Hartsig 1901-1902
Peter Schoenherr 1903-1904
Michael Smith 1905-1906
William Hartsig 1907-1908
Edward Peck 1909-1910
Joseph Trombley 1911-1912
Alex Koehler 1913-1914
Otto Jacob 1915-1916
John Rinke 1917-1920
Anthony Kaltz 1921-1922
Theodore Henkel 1923-1924
A. C. Lyons 1925
Joseph Wiegand 1926
William Qualman 1927-1928
Edward Jacob 1929-1930
Henry Kuhn 1931-1932
David Smith 1933-1935
Frank Licht 1936-1940
Frank Wiegand 1941-1946
Two year terms follow
Frank Wiegand 1943-1946
Ralph Hartsig 1947-1948
William A Shaw 1949-1956

Mayors of Warren
Arthur J Miller Jan 1 1957 1961

Louis Kelsey Jan 1 1961 April 1961
William (Bill) Shaw April 1961 – April 1967
Ted Bates April 1967 - April 1969, April 1969 - Nov 7 1971, Nov 8 1971 – Nov 12, 1973-19 81
James R Randlett Nov 7 1981 – Nov 8 1983, Nov 5 1965
Ronald L Bonkowski Nov 6 1985- Nov 3 87, Nov 3 87 – Nov 6 91, Nov 6 91-Nov 7, 95.
Mark A Steenbergh Nov 7 1995 Nov 2 99, Nov 2, 99-Nov 8 03, Nov 8 03-Nov 10, 2007
James Fouts Nov 10, 2007-2023 In his first remarks he stated that this city government will be by the people and for the people and that his decisions would be based on what was best for the community. He quoted President Truman who justified decisions by asking will it benefit the average citizen.

The current mayor of Warren, Michigan, is Lori Stone, who took office on November 18, 2023.

2026 Warren Michigan City Council is

At Large Dave Dwyer Council Member Assistant Secretary-Mayor Pro-Tem 586-665-0705

ddwyer@cityofwarren.org(goes to new website)

At Large Angela Rogensues Council Member President 586-209-4964

angela@cityofwarren.org(goes to new website)

District 1 Melody Magee Council Member Vice President 586-275-7233

mmagee@cityofwarren.org(goes to new website)

District 2 Jonathan Lafferty Council Member District 2 586-804-9156

jlafferty@cityofwarren.org(goes to new website)

District 3 Mindy Moore Council Member Secretary 586-703-5177

mindy@cityofwarren.org(goes to new website)

District 4 Gary Boike Council Member District 4 586-214-1653

gboike@cityofwarren.org(goes to new website)

District 5 Henry Newnan Council Member District 5 586-360-4998

hnewnan@cityofwarren.org(goes to new website)

General email jor entire council is citycouncil@cityofwarren.org (586) 258-2060

5460 Arden Avenue, Warren, MI 48092, USA

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Salaries

Civil Servants
First Warren City officials

January 1, 1957 Mayor Arthur J Miller, Clerk Hildegarde Lowe, City treasurer William A Shaw. City Council President Louis a Kelsey, Harold Stilwell, John Dunn Sr, Irving Little, Frank Runey, Harold Perry. Ed Kenney. Judges John Kelsey and Edward Gallagher. Department Heads Police commissioner Stanley Hamacher, Fire commissioner William Burr, Director of Public Service C P McGrath, Controller Clarence Steinhauser, Assessor Earl Tallman, City attorney Howard Snapp, DPW N. D. Eckstein, Water Thomas Butcher, Sewage Disposal Floyd Vermette, Building John McMath, parks and Recreation John Holland.

1959 Mayor Arthur J Miller, Clerk Hildegarde Lowe, City treasurer William A Shaw. City Council President Louis a Kelsey, Harold Stilwell, Frank Runey, Harold Perry. Orvylle Young, Norman Hill, Verne Boewe. Judges John Kelsey and Edward Gallagher. Fire Commishioner Joseph Adler, Sewage disposal Louis Kifer. Parks and Recreation Frank Cosgrove.

1961 Jan-April Mayor Louis Kelsey, Council President Norman Hill.

1961 Mayor Willian Shaw, Clerk James Gray, Treasurer Ted Bates. Council Roy Gruenberg, Harold Stilwell, Harold Perry. Orvylle Young, Kingsley, Howard Austin, Arthur Woodhouse, Charles Fox, Orba Underwood. Judges Edward Gallagher and Verne Boewe. Changes in departments: Water Division Harrison DeMott, City Attorney Kenneth McAlpine, Building Division John Becher, Police Commissioner Marvin Lane, Fire Commissioner William Burr.

Salaries

All Warren Township officials in 1893 served without pay.

Township Treasurer since 1843 got 4% of the collections as his fee.

Beginning in 1920

Supervisor

1920 Supervisor was paid $800.

1930 3600

1931 2400

1932 10% cut 2700

Clerk

1920 the Clerk $500 per year.

1930 2100

1931 1650

1932 10% cut

Treasurer

1930 3000

1931 2400

1932 10% cut

Mayor

1973 15,804

1975 29,000

1981 31,000

1982 35,310

2010 110,212

Administrative Supervisor

2010 80,264

Mayor Secretary
2010 57,037

Councilmen
1973 3387
1975 3500
1981 9000
1982 9000
2010 27,554

Deputy Council Secretary
2010 69,640

City Clerk
1973 10,724
1975 17,000
1981 25,000
1982 25,000
2010 81,825

City Treasurer
1973 10,724
1975 17,000
1981 25,000
1982 25,000
2010 81,511

Controller
2010 109,553

Judge
2010 45,724

Court Administrator
2010 105,641

Recreation Director
1973 14,549
1975 21,403
1981 36,171
1982 38,795

City Attorney
1973 30,278
1975 32,168
1981 47,815
1982 51,148
2010 112,441

Asst City Attorney
2010 103,225

Police Chief
1973 20,967
1975 22,665
1981 39,415
1982 42,236
2010 115,695

Policeman
1973 13,399
1975 14,075 1 Chief, 1 Ast Chief 4 Capt, 12 Lt, 23 Sgt, 120 Patrolmen, 36 Detectives, 3 Animal Control
1981 18,512
1982 18,500-21,600
2010 68,000 – 82,000 1 Comm, 1 Dep Comm, 3 Capt, 11 Lt, 20 Sgt, 39 Corpl, 161 Officer, sub total 236, 5 specialists, 11 Clerical, 23 dispatch, sub total 39, Total 275

Fire Chief
1973 20,125
1975 21,457
1981 39,415
1982 42,236
2010 111,185

Admin Chief
2010 98,517
Fireman
1973 12,485
1975 14,452 1 Chief, 1 Ast Chief, 10 Capt, 20 Lt, 15 Sgt, 100 FF, 5 Inspectors
1981 17,055
1982 18-23,000
2010 61,000-67,000 1 Cm, 1 Admin Chf, 1 HazMat Chf, 3 Batln Chf, 1 Fire Mar, 1 Dep Fire Mar, 1 Chf EMS, 1 Chf Training, 6 Capt, 9 Lt Aemt, 12 Lt, 3 Fire Inspector, 2 Sgt AEMT, 4 Sgt, 1 Chf Apprtus, 31 Fire Ftr AEMT, 27 Fire Fighter Engine, 38 Fire Fighter, 1 secretary, 2 Clerk. Total Fire Personnel 147

Head Librarian
1975 21,403
1981 32,481
1982 34,880

Librarian
1975 12-15,000
1981 19-21,000
1982 20-25,000

Asst Librarian
1975 10,618
1982 17-18,441

2010 Library
Library Director 92,175 +33,000 benefits
4 Supervisors 73,483 +33,000 benefits
Branch Librarian 59,421
Library Technician 50,802
Clerk 53,689
Asst Special Services 27.31 per Hour
Part Time Help 300,000

Facts are still being sought to fully complete this history
Please contact professorwesarnold@gmail.com if you have more information or comments.

Center Line becomes a village

The little farming community wanted to have more services than the township was providing so they decided to form a village. 1925 Center Line became a village. The first village president was Bernard Wolfe in 1927.

In December of 1935 the Village of Center Line's citizens voted to become a home rule city and the first mayor was Dr. Russel E. Lynch. 1935 - 1942. Who brought your historian into the world.

R. L Isbister 4/6/42 4/1/46

J. L Eisele 4/1/46 4/5/54

A. G. Hazen 4/5/54 4/4/60

J. L Eisele 4/4/60 4/6/64

S. Okros 4/6/64 12/30/68
P. J. Tranchida 1/13/69 11/3/81

M. A. Zielinski 11/3/81 11/8/93

L. J. Nardi Jr. 11/8/93 11/4/97

M. A. Zielinski 1997 - 2009

David Hanselman 2009-2015

Bob Binson, Present Mayor

Richard Moeller, Council Member

Peter Harenski, Council Member

Aaron Delikta, Council Member

Kathi Buckner, Council Member

Dennis Champine - City Manager

Any questions about Center Line Government see https://www.centerline.gov/

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